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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
09/901,913	07/11/2001	Junichi Matsushita	040894-5425-01	7852
9629 7.	590 08/18/2003			
MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP			EXAMINER	
1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004			SEFER, AHMED N .	
	•		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2826	
			DATE MAILED: 08/18/2003	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Office Action Summary			M					
Office Action Summary Examiner Art Unit A. Sefer 2826 - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. If the period for reply sepacified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the stationy minimum of their (40) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply sepacified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the stationy minimum of their (40) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply sepacified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the stationy minimum of their (40) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply sepacified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the stationy minimum of their (40) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply sepacified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the practice of their (40) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply sepacified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the thirty (40) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply sepacified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the thirty (40) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply sepacified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the thirty (40) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply sepacified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the thirty (40) days will be considered timely. If the period to communication is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 4 is/are rejected. The claim(s) 4 is/are rejected. The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) Claim(s) is safe objected to restriction and/o		Application No.	Applicant(s)					
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14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).	application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).							
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.								
Attachment(s)	Attachment(s)							
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) Notice of Informal F						

Application/Control Number: 09/901,913

Art Unit: 2826

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 2. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art (APA) in view of Yamane (JP 9-147615).

The APA discloses in fig. 5 a liquid crystal display device including an under light type back light unit in which light emitted from a plurality of linear light sources 4 is reflected by a reflecting sheet 5 disposed at a rear side of the plurality of linear light sources, then transmitted through a light modulation film 9 and a light diffusion plate 7 to form a planar light source with a first uniform luminance thereby to indirectly irradiating a first portion of a liquid crystal panel 8 from a rear side thereof, but omits a light source shielded by a light shield.

Yamane discloses (see figs. 2 and abstract) a light emitted from a linear light source 3 shielded by a light shielding plate 4 and transmitted only through a guiding plate, which is capable of irradiating a second portion of a panel from a rear sidethereof with a luminance higher than a first luminance.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Yamane with the APA, since that would raise brightness at upper surface of a plate as taught by Yamane.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to A. Sefer whose telephone number is (703) 605-1227. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn can be reached on (703) 308-6601.

ANS August 9, 2003

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